

East Locust Street Commercial District  
Nielsen, Gehrke and Hansen Clothing Store  
(Garfield Clothing Store)  
525-529 East Locust Street  
Des Moines  
Polk County  
Iowa

HABS No. IA-143-C

HABS  
IOWA,  
77-DESMO,  
18-C-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240

HABS  
IOWA,  
77-Desmo,  
18-C-

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE Iowa	COUNTY Polk	TOWN OR VICINITY Des Moines
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) East Locust Street Commercial District		HABS NO. IA-143-C
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE Nielsen, Gehrke & Hansen Clothing Store, Garfield Clothing Store		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 525-529 East Locust St.		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1880	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) Unknown	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) This building was first used as a retail store and contributes to the last remaining cluster of Victorian commercial buildings in Des Moines. This Victorian Italianate commercial structure is in a style typical of this once viable commercial district.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Victorian (commercial)		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Masonry walls, wood floor and joist with bearing walls 40' x 0' apart		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) See floor plans, HABS No. IA-143		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) Much of the interior woodwork and beamed ceiling on the third floor remains intact. A large open room remains on the third floor. This floor was used as Lods and Selby Brothers Roller Rink in 1884 and was later used as a banquet and meeting hall.		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES The front entrance has been altered, probably sometime in the 1920s. The exterior has been stuccoed and a tile mosaic has been added to the east side.		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Vacant		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE Nielson, Gehrke and Hansen operated a clothing and drug store in the early 1880s. By 1908 Garfield Clothing Co. took over the structure and established themselves as a prominent clothing store.		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Des Moines City Assessor, Des Moines City Directories Porter, Will. <u>Annals of Polk County and City of Des Moines</u> (George A. Miller Printers and Publishers, Des Moines, Iowa, 1898).		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Mary Neiderback, Assistant Planner City of Des Moines, Iowa	DATE 9-9-83	